



HI-Q

THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB JOURNAL

LARC- Suite 184, 1100C Memorial Ave., Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, P7B 4A3

VE3FW - LARC call sign - honours the memory of the Founding President - P. J. "Pat" O'Shea

LARC SENATE

| | |
|---------------|--------|
| Keith Fiske | VE3JQ |
| Ray Forslund | VE3EDZ |
| Ray Greer | VE3CH |
| Dave Kimpton | VE3AVS |
| Bill Klemacki | VE3AJ |
| Bill Roberts | VE3ARN |

LARC EXECUTIVE

| | | |
|------------|------------------|--------------------|
| President: | Bob Hansen | VE3RVA 767-6924 |
| Vice-Pres: | Mark Vaillant | VA3MVR 935-2205 |
| Secretary: | Judy Artist | VA3EAP 345-2218 |
| Treasurer: | Jan Sokoloski | VA3JRS 344-3222 |
| Directors: | Ed Baumann | VE3SNW 622-1216 |
| | Andy Malcolm | VE3INI 345-1858 |
| | Maureen Meredith | VA3MOB 344-7868 |
| | Pat Pugh | VA3PP 345-8562 |
| Past Pres: | Ian Mellis | VA3RIM 577-1628 |

LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

| | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|---------|--------|----|
| VE3YQT | MOUNT BALDY | 147.06 | (-600) | FP |
| VE3TBR | ST. JOSEPH'S | 146.820 | (-600) | FP |
| VE3BGA | HILLCREST H.S. | 147.390 | (+600) | |
| VE3TBB | UPSALA ONT. | 145.470 | (-600) | FP |
| (linked to VE3YQT) | | | | |

PREZ SEZ.....

Summer is finally here, BBQ's are out and the summer cottages are open, for another season. This will be the last meeting of the year for the LARC on June 14/2001. We have had a very good turnout of members at the last two meetings.

I would like to thank Terry, **VA3LU**, for his excellent demonstration on Internet Radio Linking (IRLP) which he did at the May meeting. At the next meeting Fred, **VE3FAL**, will give a demonstration of satellite communication. Please take note that the meeting room has been changed ; it will be in **Room C242 on the 2nd floor of the Shuniah building near the cafeteria**. This is only temporary and we will return to Room 191 in the McIntyre Building in the Fall.

Mark, **VA3MVR**, is doing a fine job in organizing the LARC Field Day which will be held on June 23/24 at his place on Oliver Road by Sunset Gardens Cemetery. If you can help out in any way please get in contact with Mark at 935-2205.

On behalf of myself and the Executive I would like to wish all members and their families a safe and wonderful summer. See you at the June 14 meeting

Your President Bob **VE3RVA**

The cat came back

Bill Klemacki VE3AJ

During my early formative years in Ham Radio, BK (before keyers), I started off with a Johnson straight key, but it soon became apparent that more speed was called for (QRQ) on twenty meters. So in perusing the catalogues as most of us did then, dreaming of better equipment for the shack, I saw what was considered the epitomy of keys for CW the Vibroplex Deluxe original model. Chrome plated, with red jewels to enhance the appearance, a heavy steel base, a thing of beauty. There was, and still is, a gold-plated-top version available, but even then it was a bit steep for my posties' wage.

So in went the money order to Electrosonic Supply in Toronto, and back in a few weeks came the package containing this fabulous apparatus for the creation of genuine digital communications, in 1963.

It occupied a central spot on my somewhat busy (not untidy) operating position, and drew admiring comments from visitors. I had that key for only about 4-years, and in the meantime electronic keyers were becoming the rage. QST, CQ and other magazines of the day sported homebrew keyers and the ads for commercial versions were coming from all directions. So, of course, I had to have one too!

There were a number built over the years, with a few different paddles to make them go.

But I digress. What happened to the Vibroplex? I sold it! After a while, I felt that it would be nice to have that bug back, but to whom did I sell it? This remained a puzzle for a number of years, until Terry, VE3TFS mentioned that he had a couple of keys that he had obtained from an estate sale of Fred Lawrence, VE3EET recently. At the May, 2001 club meeting, he showed me what he had in his trunk. Lo and behold, there was my original Vibroplex, but in somewhat sad shape. On dismantling the

parts on a recent Saturday

morning, I found that it wasn't as bad as it looked. I even had spare parts for it that I had purchased in the mid-sixties. Thanks to Terry's generosity, after 34- years this marvellous bug will again grace the shack of VE3AJ. I'm hoping to have it refurbished in time for the June meeting. You can see it then.

LARC's "Holy Rollers"....

Are back in action at Grandview Arena Sunday evenings from 7 – 9PM. Join **VA3BRN, EAP, NES, PP, and VE3AVS, XRC and XLB** for a fun night of doing it on wheels – either roller blades or roller skates (remember Wheelies???) as they glide around the rink surface for the next few months. Adults only Sunday nights.....no hotdogging kids to watch out for. And for only 3 dollars.....cheap!!!

IRLP Fun and games.....

By the time you read this, Terry **VA3LU** will probably have the link installed through **VA3BGA** on 147.390 instead of **VE3YQT**. Please read and understand the directions for operating IRLP (handed out at last meeting, also emailed out). Probably the most important thing to remember is....**wait, wait, wait**. If you listen to experienced operators, they seem to leave about 4 – 5 seconds before transmitting. Get the habit!!!

New Repeater.....

There will be a new repeater operating on **146.730 MHz (-)** around the end of July. It will be located in Northern Minnesota on the Gunflint Trail at coordinates 480442N and 904536W, and will likely require PL tone access. The antenna will be atop a U.S. Forestry Service tower and the repeater will be linked to the 146.895 facility in Grand Marais.

While on the topic of Minnesota, those of us who know and worked Oscar **K4EH** down in Hovland will miss him now that he and his XYL are moving to New Hampshire. We wish them many years of good health and enjoyment with his daughter and grandchildren.

Down Memory LaneJune 1963.....

Frank **VE3AJ** was appointed as “operations officer” for the LARC. Bill **VE3ARN** was supplying the field day generator courtesy of Hydro. The LARC and Duluth ARC shared summer picnics in an across-the-border of hospitality. There was discussion concerning the class of operator license required to operate **VE3ZCD**. Les **VE3AYZ** recommended a Radio Regulations Handbook be placed at **VE3ZCD**. Don **VE3EDJ** took on responsibility for keeping the field day site clear of garbage. Les **VE3AYZ** also suggested it would be a good idea to set up an operating amateur radio station at the Murillo Fall Fair. Motion to adjourn by Dave **VE3AVS** and seconded by Don **VE3EDJ**.

Camp 807

Information received from the Rainy Lake Amateur Radio Club about Camp 807, this year being hosted in Fort Frances, August 3 – 5. Camping facilities available at the Holiday Village Campground. The weekend begins with check-in 12 noon on Friday (talk-in 146.82 (-), with social time, games, campfire, etc. at 1900 hours. Swap tables and tailgaters Saturday at 10 AM, guest speaker **VE3XRC** at 1300, door prize draws at 16:30, steak supper at 17:30, Campfire skits and songs at 2100. The weekend winds up Sunday with breakfast at 0800 and meeting/discussion at 1000, followed by draw for radios. (Contact Norm **VE3XRC** for more information, or Jim **VE3YJM** at 1-807-274-3126.

Now that’s real bike mobile.....Operating

bicycle mobile in New Jersey, ARRL member Vincent Diak, **WB2PDW**, made his first SSB DX contact, working **G2BKZ** on 20 meters. Diak’s station, a Yaesu FT-817 running 5W to an Outbacker Perth antenna, was installed on his Lafree electric bike (<http://www.Lafree.com> for more information) . The bicycle has a battery-driven motor to assist the rider on grades and a computer that determines when you need help. Signals were Q5 in both directions. Diak said he supplemented that Yaesu’s internal battery with a “water-bottle” battery – a battery pack made to fit into the water bottle holder on the bike’s frame. For a closer look at bicycle mobiling, see the Bicycle Mobile Hams of America Web site <http://www.lafetra.com/bmha/> (Tks Jim **VE3UA** for forwarding article from ARRL).

Also from Jim, **VE3UA**, the following interesting tip.....If you have receivers close to you computer, download Scanner Recorder from <http://www.davee.com/scanrec/index.html> . Then run a wire from the headphone jack or the line-out on your radio to the line-in port on your computer sound card. This program will automatically start recording when a signal breaks the squelch (or you can run it manually too). Jim used it to record the first ISS school contact and it worked very well. That way you’ll be able to preserve the clip in a digital format that you can keep forever. Enjoy.

And finally, a summary of an item from the ARRL also forwarded by Jim, **VE3UA**.

Wisconsin amateurs are attempting to get an Amateur Radio antenna bill through the state’s legislature. This bill will attempt to incorporate language from the FCC doctrine of “limited pre-emption of authority over Amateur Radio antenna structures” into state law.

It appears that such a law would that ordinances or resolutions regarding placement, screening or height of Amateur Radio antennas or support structures be based on “aesthetic, public health or safety objectives”, and represent the “minimum practical regulation” necessary to accomplish the locality’s objectives and must “reasonably accommodate Amateur Radio

communication”. In other words, proactive legislation is better than a reactive response to restrictive laws.

News from RAC.....

In a notice from Industry Canada the Technical Requirements set out in the Radiocommunication Information Circular 2 (RIC-2), “Standards for the Operation of Radio Stations in the Amateur Radio Service”, has been amended. Effective May 19, 2001, this notice grants full operating privileges in all amateur radio frequency bands below 30 MHz to amateur radio operators holding the basic and 5 w.p.m. Morse code qualification. Copies of the revised RIC-2 are available from the Industry Canada site at:

<http://strategis.gc.ca/SSG/sf01226e.html>

A reminder for visitors to Dayton to drop by the RAC Booth to say hello. President Ken Oelke **VE6AFO**, Ontario North Director Doug Leach **VE3XK**, and Vice President Regulatory Affairs Tim Ellam **VE6SH**, will be in attendance. The RAC Booth is at location 217 behind the RSGB Booth.

There will be a prize draw for the new ARL Book “Antenna Zoning for the Radio Amateur” for RAC members who fill out an entry form. Those joining RAC or renewing their membership at Dayton can double their chances of winning.

Spring is yard clean-up time in Thunder Bay!

**Help clean up John’s yard (VE3EMI) by
making him an offer on a 64-foot Delhi
in his yard. Contact John @ 344-0165.**

More news from RAC.....

At the RAC Annual General Meeting of Members held in Cornwall on April 29, Larry Kayser **VA3LK**, was presented with a framed certificate in recognition of technical excellence in the achievement of trans-Atlantic communication on 136 kHz.

At the RAC Board of Directors meeting on April 27 and 28, ARRL President Jim Haynie **W5JBP**, was a welcomed guest. Approval was given for a RAC Convention in July 2002, sponsored by the North Okanagan Radio Amateur Club and the Orchard City Amateur Radio Club. The convention will be held in Vernon, BC.

Finally, after some discussion with regard to membership fees in RAC, it was decided fees would remain unchanged for the present.

RAC and Industry Canada officials met on April 26th and these are some of the highlights of the discussions:

-IC found and corrected errors in the new automated exam generator. There are still some minor problems to be corrected in the next version.

-IC and RAC are working toward reciprocal agreements with Hong Kong and Thailand

-discussions on enforcement of radio regulations continue, but with limited resources IC is relying on the amateur tradition of responsible operation for resolving internal disputes.

-amateurs should be well aware of Radio Frequency Fields and have an understanding of the applications of Health Canada’s Safety Code 6.

From outer space.....

On May 02, Farrell Winder **W8ZCF** had the pleasure of making 2 contacts with the International Space Station (ISS). First was with Susan Helms **KC7NHZ** using the **NA1SS** callsign. She remarked that she had the day off and some free time for amateur radio. When asked about Dennis Tito (first space tourist) she thought he was planning to use amateur radio aboard the ISS.

Susan was correct! On another pass, Frank had several minutes contact with Dennis **KG6FZX** who also used the ISS callsign. At the time of contact, he was passing over Canada and having a ball. He was interested in what was being said about him back here on earth.

Miles Mann **WF1F**, has had QSOs with Susan Helms who had been talking with east-coast amateur stations in the U.S.A. since the orbits of the ISS favored this region. The orbits change and repeat over an 8-week cycle, and during May should favor west-coast contacts.

Miles has made several recommendations for QSO with the ISS:

- wait** for the ISS crew to call CQ or QRZ
- send** only your call sign and wait for acknowledgement from the crew
- listen** closely for the call sign the crew is working
- if you don't hear your call sign, don't transmit until you again hear CQ or QRZ

Interested??? Tap into the ARISS web page:

<http://www.gsfc.nasa.gov/>

AND be at the June LARC meeting for a presentation by Fred VE3FAL!!!

An ARISS meeting was held in Amsterdam May 4 – 6 to discuss present and future amateur radio operations on the ISS. Twenty four people from

several different countries (Canada included) showed up. Several topics were discussed:

-frequencies for space communications.....amateurs world wide should think of 2-meter frequencies as a shared resource, with up to an hour each day being shared during the ISS six overhead passes.

-the 2-meter voice/packet station has been very popular, with the crew trying to keep the packet system in use over 70 percent of the time. There have been some battery problems with the TNC.

-SSTV is being discussed for future operations, as well as an FM repeater, digi-talker, hand-launched satellites and compressed digital TV

-plans are also in the works for extensive antenna work on the ISS.

ARISS Frequencies.....

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Voice and packet downlink | 145.80 (worldwide) |
| Voice uplink | 144.49 (Region 2) |
| Packet uplink | 145.99 (worldwide) |

Finally.....

A few websites of interest to those interested in what's going on in space:

www.w5rrr.org/astros.html astronaut home page

www.w5rrr.org/crews.html crews home page

www.qsl.net/wb8erj/turnstile-antenna.htm details about a nifty turnstile antenna for satellites

<http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/missionControl/overpass.html> web site user selects ISS and specifies from where he will view the pass (Thunder Bay is a site offered).....user can request predictions up to 14 days in advance.

<http://ww.marex-na.org> future ISS projects and links and tips on how to use the ISS chat room.

From the CCRAA “Landline”.....

KB6TAM set to become the oldest person (at 77) to sail solo around the world, setting sail from Capetown SA April 11 and keeping in touch via the 20 meter Pacific Seafarers’ Net. His first try ended when his boat sank back in February. QSX 14245 kHz around noon GMT or visit his website:

www.captainclark.com

Web sites of interest.....

www.eham.net/articles/2047 ham radio on the net – DX news – propagation forecasts – links to other ham sites

www.ku4ay.net/antenna.html good site for antenna information – also has links to other sites

www.sgcworld.com/ primarily a sales site offering everything you wanted to know about SGC products

<http://sm0vpo.8m.com> another sales site but with projects

<http://home.pacbell.net/kl7iux/maritime_historic_antique_radio.html> VE3AJ could spend hours here (maybe he already has)...incredible linking to sites featuring older radios (and not just maritime)..... of interest primarily to the “grey-haired” crowd

Your editor thanks all those who sent in web site information....a few were not used due to limited interest to amateurs.

Checking into the IRPL nets.....

If you wish to check into some of the IRPL nets,

first read the guidelines (copy available from Terry

VA3LU or any active LARC members). Terry can also supply you with the IRLP International Net Schedule for the balance of this year. Don’t even think about checking into a net without knowing the proper procedures. Nets are scheduled on selected Sundays at 1600Z, and also on selected Mondays at 0100Z. The IRPL local node uses **VA3BGA** on 147.390 MHz.

RAC Special Events Calendar.....

May 29 – MI QRP Memorial Day CW Sprint

June 1 – 4 Major Six Club Contest

June 2 – 3 WW South America CW Contest

June 2 – 3 IARU Region 1 CW Field Day

June 15 – July 15 All Canadian Radio Amateurs residing in Quebec are authorized the use of Special Prefixes CG2 for VE2, and CF2 for VA2 to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of that province’s Radio Amateur du Quebec Inc.

May 22 – June 21 **VC7U** has been authorized for use by Steve Howard to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the first Rhodes Scholarships awarded in 1976 to Canadian women.

NOTICE – LARC MONTHLY MEETING

THURSDAY JUNE 14 – 1930 HOURS

SHUNIAH BUILDING

ROOM C242 (June only!)

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club
held in Room 191, Confederation College, Thunder Bay, Ontario
May 10, 2001**

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 by the President VE3RVA, Bob Hansen with 24 members and guests in attendance. The meeting started with a roundtable of members and guests introducing themselves.

Minutes of the Meeting held on April 12, 2001: The minutes of meeting held on April 12, 2001 were published in detail in the April issue of the AHi-Q@ and distributed to all members.

Motion: moved by VA3BRN, Gerry Burney and seconded by VE3ZG, Mike Nawrocki that the minutes be accepted as distributed. **Carried.**

Correspondence: A letter was read from Shoppers Drug Mart asking for our assistance again for the 10 Mile Road Race. VE3XLB, Linda Bell reported this event is taken care of with operators in place.

Treasurer's Report: VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski

Balance as of March 31, 2001 \$2,472.77

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|-------|----------------|
| Income: | 50/50 | 31.50 | | |
| | Bank Interest | .07 | | |
| | Donation | 11.50 | | |
| | Membership dues | | 35.00 | |
| | Student fees | <u>25.00</u> | | <u>103.07</u> |
| Expenses: | Administration | 123.13 | | |
| | Bank S.C. | | 2.50 | |
| | Hi-Q | | 28.47 | |
| | Telephone | <u>40.37</u> | | <u>137.53</u> |
| Balance as of April 30, 2001 | | | | \$ 2438.31 |

Motion: Moved by VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski and seconded by VE3ICY, Glen Wallace that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. **Carried.**

Committee Reports: Phone patch is now working on YQT. VE3RVA, Bob Hansen thanked all those who volunteered to work on it.

Equipment: VA3LU, Terry Stewardson reported work is on-going on Upsala controller.

ARES: VA3GOT, Randy Gottfred has up-dated the Ares Call-out list and has sent it out on email. He has a few hard copies for those who don't get email. ARES ID pictures will be taken next meeting.

Randy is in touch with the McDonald's Cycling Across Canada@ and will pass on any and all information when it becomes

available.

Canwarn: VA3JMS, John Sacek reported that there is a training session in June and will keep us informed. There will be new weather books to hand out at that time.

Public Service: VE3XLB Linda Bell has operators arranged for the Run for Women on May 12th. VE3XRC, Norman Bell has operators arranged for the Legion 10 Mile Road Race on May 21st. VE3ZG, Mike Nawrocki arranged for operators for Conquer the Dog, May 27th.

Salvation Army Blitz went O.K. thanks to VA3LU, Terry Stewardson Net Control, and drivers!

Field Day: VA3MVR, Mark Vaillant says everything is all set for June 23rd and 24th, 2001.

Appointment: Congratulations to VE3XRC, Norman Bell for being appointed Assistant Director for RAC, Ontario North.

Old Business: Reminder to send information to VA3EAP, Judy Artist of any club equipment.

New Business: VE3AJ, Bill Klemacki (officially) closed antenna season with a resounding Ahonk honk@ from all members present.

June Meeting: Please make note of new room meeting for June meeting only - Shuniah Building, C242, 2nd Floor.

50/50 Draw: Winner of 50/50 draw was VA3JMS, John Sacek.

Adjournment: Moved by VE3DWP, Dan Darling that meeting be adjourned.

Guest Speaker: VA3LU, Terry Stewardson gave a very interesting presentation on IRLP, Internet Radio Linking Project.

WOW, were we impressed!! Terry made a contact on YQT to VE1SFX, Jim, in Halifax by using an access code. One of our amateurs, none other than VA3EAP, Judy Artist talked to Jim with the entire club and maybe countless other amateurs around the world listening! As Terry's handout very aptly states, many repeaters around the world are alive and well with radio amateurs speaking with other hams around the world. THANKS TERRY, and have fun everyone.

Terry does have a very helpful handout on IRLP Operating Guidelines.

10 Mile Road Race.....

The tradition continues - once again members of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club made their presence known in the 68th running of the 10 Mile Road Race. Four courageous members pounded the pavement for the 10 mile course which started under blue skies and ended in the usual long weekend downpour. Running the race were **VA3NST** Denise Magill, **VA3PP** Pat Pugh (who won her age category), **VE3XLB** Linda Bell and **VA3NES** William Bell (his first 10 mile race). Sidelined and unable to run this year were Dave Kimpton **VE3AVS** (eye surgery), Glen Wallace **VE3ICY** (back muscle spasm) and Fred Lesnick **VE3FAL** (fishing trip).

At each mile point along the route were stationed members of the Club keeping race officials up to date on the progress of the runners. Mile 1 was covered by **VE3RVA** Bob Hansen, mile 2 **VE3PHL** John Kuzma, mile 3 **VE3MXJ** Brad Harris, mile 4 **VA3MVR** Mark Vaillant, mile 5 **VE3DWP** Dan Darling, mile 6 **VA3TBA** Chris Chadwick, mile 7 **VA3EAP** Judy Artist, mile 8 **VE3PHL** John Kuzma and mile 9 **VE3RVA** Bob Hansen. Manning the finish line was **VA3MOB** Maureen Meredith and **VE3XRC** Norm Bell. Covering the entire course on bicycle in the rain following the last runner were **VA3JRS** Jan Sokoloski and **VA3AMY** Al Sokoloski. Al said that it was the furthest he had ever ridden a bike at one time. (Tks Norm **VE3XRC** for article)